

THE WITHIN INSTRUMENT IS A CORRECT COPY  
OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.

ATTEST:

JAN 30 2007

ROBERT DEIS, Clerk of the Board of Directors of  
the SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

BY

  
DEPUTY CLERK

#24

Resolution No. 07-0081

County Administration Bldg.  
Santa Rosa, CA

Date: January 30, 2007

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SONOMA COUNTY WATER  
AGENCY OF INTENTION TO PREPARE A GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR THE SONOMA VALLEY BASIN OF SONOMA COUNTY.

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2006, the Sonoma County Water Agency's Board directed staff to initiate a non-regulatory groundwater management planning process in the Sonoma Valley Basin; and

WHEREAS, active public participation is critical to the success of development of any groundwater planning effort; and

WHEREAS, as part of initiating a groundwater management planning process in Sonoma Valley, a Basin Advisory Panel (BAP) was formed to act as the groundwater management plan stakeholder group for the Sonoma Valley Basin; and

WHEREAS, the BAP includes stakeholders from throughout the Sonoma Valley representing agricultural interests, local citizen groups, environmental groups, business interests, local well owners and government interests; and

WHEREAS, the BAP has been meeting since August 2006 to begin the groundwater management planning process in the Sonoma Valley; and

WHEREAS, development of a groundwater management plan would provide for the effective management of groundwater resources in the Sonoma Valley Basin; and

WHEREAS, the California Water Code requires that before a groundwater management plan can be prepared, a local public agency must provide notice and hold a hearing regarding the local public agency's intent to prepare a Groundwater Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Water Agency (Agency) was formed in 1949 by a special legislative act of the State of California ("Agency Act") and is a stakeholder of the Basin Advisory Panel; and

WHEREAS, under the Agency Act, the Agency may provide for the protection and preservation of groundwater resources in Sonoma County for current and future beneficial uses and may develop, adopt, and implement a plan to manage groundwater resources in the Sonoma Valley; and

WHEREAS, by completing a Groundwater Management Plan, existing and future State funding may be available for plan implementation; and

WHEREAS, a hearing has been duly noticed and held as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency hereby finds, determines, and declares as follows:

1. All of the above recitals are true and correct.
2. The Agency intends to prepare a Groundwater Management Plan for the Sonoma Valley Basin of Sonoma County.
3. The General Manager/Chief Engineer is authorized and directed to take such steps as are necessary to develop the Groundwater Management Plan for the Sonoma Valley Basin, for Board consideration, and to publish a copy of this Resolution as required by law.
4. Upon completion of a Groundwater Management Plan, the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency will consider adopting and implementing the Groundwater Management Plan in accordance with the process required by law.
5. The General Manager/Chief Engineer shall take such steps as are necessary to ensure that the Groundwater Management Plan for the Sonoma Valley Basin contains at least the following components:
  - a) Basin Management Objectives;
  - b) Components relating to the monitoring and management of groundwater levels, groundwater banking, groundwater quality, inelastic land surface subsidence, and changes in surface flow and surface water quality that directly affect groundwater levels or quality or are caused by groundwater pumping;
  - c) Monitoring protocols to track changes in conditions related to components in paragraph (b) and to generate information for the purpose of meeting Basin Management Objectives and establishing effective management of groundwater;
  - d) A plan to involve other local agencies, water purveyors, and private well owners in the development of the Groundwater Management Plan;
  - e) A map depicting the Sonoma Valley Basin, as defined by the California Department of Water Resources Bulletin No. 118 and the Basin Advisory Panel, other local agencies, and water purveyors in the Sonoma Valley; and
  - f) Rules related to implementation of the Groundwater Management Plan.

6. The General Manager/Chief Engineer shall take such steps as are necessary to ensure active public participation in the groundwater management planning process and shall coordinate and staff the Basin Advisory Panel meetings which will serve to provide a forum for public involvement in the development of the Groundwater Management Plan. To support the groundwater management planning process, the Agency shall develop a plan for public involvement which shall include at least the following:

- a) The formulation of a Technical Review Committee to guide development of the Groundwater Management Plan;
- b) Preparation of a Public Outreach Plan;
- c) Provision of public review and comment periods, and public hearings pursuant to Water Code Section 10753 et seq.

DIRECTORS:

KERNS \_\_\_\_\_ SMITH \_\_\_\_\_ KELLEY \_\_\_\_\_ REILLY \_\_\_\_\_ BROWN \_\_\_\_\_

Ayes   5   Noes \_\_\_\_\_ Absent \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain \_\_\_\_\_

SO ORDERED.